



The Northern Lights

Vol. 33, Issue 2 North Central High School, 1801 E. 86th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46240 Friday, September 16, 1988

Recount proves school board election invalid

-by Paul Jaskunas

A recount of last May's Washington Township's school board election has resulted in the replacement of board member, Diane L. Kelly. Rick Sutton has taken her place.

Mrs. Kelly was declared the winner by 46 votes over Sutton. However, Sutton doubted the tally's validity when told that he received no votes in Precinct Two, a precinct he claimed to have campaigned very hard in. "I knew that wasn't possible," he said of the results. In addition some voters of that precinct stated to have voted for Sutton.

A week after the election Sutton filed a petition for a recount of 40 of the 90 precincts in the district (including Precinct Two). Mrs. Kelly protested due to technical flaws in the petition and the fact that not all precincts would have been recounted.

Marion Circuit Court Judge Gerald S. Zore dismissed the petition and Mrs. Kelly was sworn into office.

Afterwards an investigation by the Marion County prosecutor's office uncovered an error that a Precinct Two worker had made in tabulating the votes. In actuality, Sutton had received 150 votes but they had not been counted. These votes would have put Sutton ahead of Mrs. Kelly.

The investigation's results prompted the two parties to agree to a recount of all 90 precincts. Judge Zore appointed a commission of three (Joseph L. Smith Sr., Laura M. Dellinger, and Howard Howe) to recount all 12,000 ballots by hand. The process commenced Wed., Aug. 31. On Tues., Sept 6, one-third of the way through the recount, Kelly handed the victory over to Sutton and he was declared the winner.

The new tally proved Sutton to be ahead of Kelly by 170 votes after 36 of the 90 precincts had been recounted.

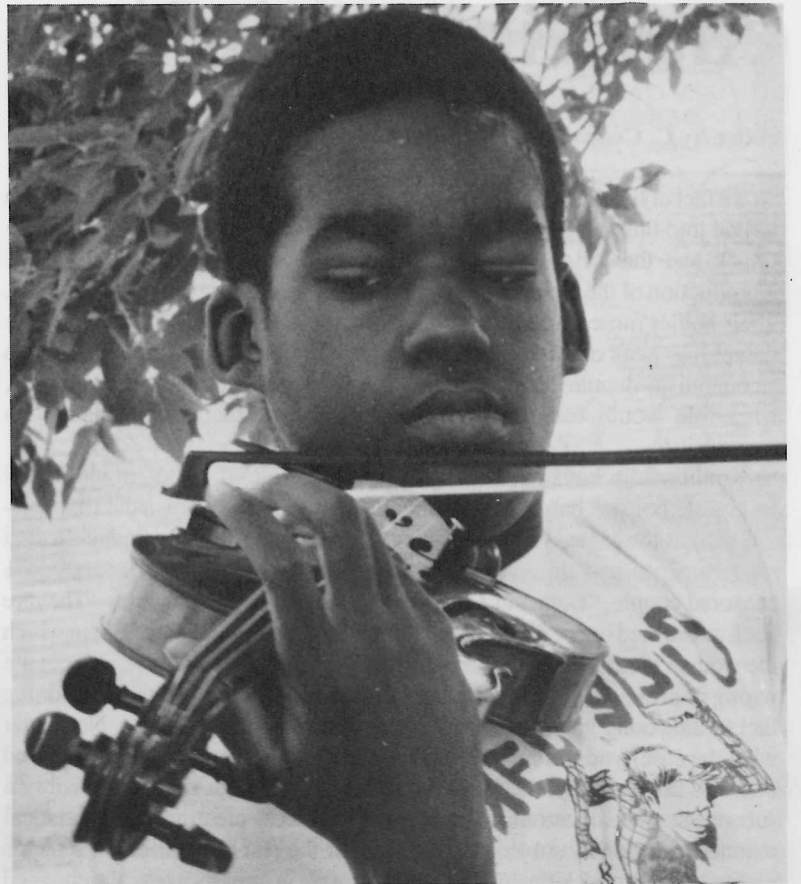
Sutton blames Mrs. Kelly for not allowing a recount immediately after the election, for dragging the conflict

on for four months. "It was entirely her fault," he states.

However, Mrs. Kelly claims she was not aware of any evidence that suggested a mistake in the vote count when she protested Sutton's initial request for a recount.

The district used paper ballots for the May 1 election. Both parties agree it was a mistake not to use machines at the polls. Paper ballots are more difficult to record and easier to miscount, according to Sutton.

Sutton, a property developer, has no background in education though he claims to have covered it very closely in a previously owned weekly newspaper. He strongly disapproved of the teachers starting last school year without a contract and believes that "we have to have an effective collective bargaining arrangement" for future negotiations between the administration and Teacher's association.



Reeves and his violin in action

photo by Josh Kaminker

NC violinist wins national contest

by Tina Poulos

Derek Reeves, 15, is a junior at North Central who has a special talent for playing the violin. He recently won \$1,700 in a nationwide contest for violinists.

The contest was divided into three parts: Local, district, and national. The United States is divided into 12 districts for the nationals. Reeves competed against approximately 11 other violinists in each competition.

The local contest was held in Indianapolis on March 20, 1988 at Witherspoon Church. Reeves won that competition and \$200. The district competition, where Reeves

won \$500, was held at the Flint, Michigan Hyatt on April 8, 1988. Following that, the nationals were held in Dallas, Texas at the Convention Center on July 24, 1988. Reeves won that and received \$1000.

Major Curtis Taylor, an organizer for the local division of the contest, spotted Reeves playing the violin on "A.M. Indiana" and invited him to be in the contest. The song he played for all three divisions of the contest was "Zigeunerweisen" (Gypsy Airs), by Pablo De Sar.

• • • •

One North Central International Baccalaureate student, Jennifer Jenkins, feels that the program is "a tough academic work load but the mental part is much worse." She explains that the pressure put on a potential candidate can be excruciating due to people constantly telling you how hard it will be.

Jennifer, as other I.B. students, enter the program because she "really enjoys school and no one else has done it here yet." She states that she

would feel really accomplished if she could be one of the first graduates of N.C. with an I.B. diploma.

As of yet, students, teachers and organizers all feel optimistic about the success of the program. Mrs. Yingling enthusiastically says that she is "impressed with the program" and adds that she has "enjoyed what she has learned and is eager to share it." Dr. Guffin hopes that I.B. can expand to all subjects and cultures.

• • •

At a Glance

Yearbook photos will be taken September 22 and 23.

The first round of yearbook sales will end Mon., September 19.

September 30 is the last day to drop a class without a grade penalty.

Come support your Panther football squad tonight as they square off against the Chatard Trojans! Kick-off is at 7:30.

New diploma offered to N.C. students

by Linda Zynger

The world renowned International Baccalaureate Diploma program has been in existence since 1962 where it began in Switzerland. It has now reached North Central High School through dedicated students and teachers.

The I.B. curriculum is a rigorous pre-university course of study that gives a gifted student higher level training and ensures them of a sound high school education. There are few N.C. students enrolled in the program this year but the number is expected to rise as awareness of the program increases.

International Baccalaureate candidates must take a number of "x" classes in addition to their extensive academic ones. A new philosophical class, theory of knowledge, is also a graduate requirement. These students take 3 semesters of economics and must incorporate art or music into their schedules.

Dr. Guffin, the English department chairperson here at N.C., currently

organizes much of the program. He states that the students who enroll in I.B. have the "security of knowing that they have received the best education possible." He also contends that their diploma will be recognized at any college as a strong liberal arts preparation.

Dr. Guffin states that "there are a few features of the program that could be developed further and adopted into N.C. classes that would help students of all levels." "For example, the Theory of Knowledge class could be incorporated into the current Skills For Living course to increase the mental and philosophical level", adds Guffin.

Many North Central teachers have been reading extensively to catch up on the Oriental cultures in order to ready themselves to teach it. Mrs. Yingling, an I.B. English instructor has been doing just that and states that "it is important for us to continually do their homework and keep up on world affairs."

Editorial

Evolution of a chauvinist, pig?!

Satire by C. Coons

It's a fact of life that we're born into a reality where the men dominate. Upon arrival into this thing called life, the boys are welcomed with a good, hardy smack and the girls with a slight nod and a few muffled words about reproduction of the race. Let's face it, women were and still are sex symbols. Their bodies mused, used, abused, and finally when they've fallen over the voluptuous peak of vitality, refused. But what other use is there for women - coquettish, demure, sensitive, sensible, virtuous women? And anyhow, what role would one expect the male to play except that of supreme superiority?

Traditionally boys have always played the role of "Dad" in childhood games of "house," but, as is usual, they never seemed to grasp the true "get-up" behind the game. Of course, this outdated image has been updated to suit modern times and the ever-progressive eighties, but, unfortunately, the censored couple, "Dick and Jane," have been chained to the past. They've been airbrushed out of the eighties in order that the golden fact of life in which the woman is subject to her husband will live eternally and kids don't get the wrong impression. A woman's true place in society could be a disillusioning fact to the young girl with her dollies or the small boy warrior. No matter what the case, a non-human renaissance of thought seems to purge the mind of the male, typically, the junior or senior year of high school. Possibly a subconscious realization of inadequacy surfaces, creating the egotistical mannerisms the boy subject experiences for the rest of his life. This seems highly logical considering that sitting in a corner at an early age while engaged in the childhood game of "school" could cause lasting psychological effects harmful when suppressed.

I guess what evoked these thoughts on male chauvinism was the simple fact that I've never known anyone but a boy to go completely 360 degrees around an issue without ever getting to a solid point. I knew it happened in the real world, but never did I believe that it would invade my microcosm here at school and especially at such a young, impressionable age. Miracles do come true and nightmares, too. I feel honored to have witnessed the awesome metamorphosis of the young boy into young man. The penetrating vibes of his new rebirth in wonder illuminating his timid school boy ego and transforming him into a higher being touched me, the young school girl, briefly, but escaped under my breath. Too shy was I, the maneless woman, to catch the pitch. I missed the boat to the island of pedantics who, with superfluous words of self-righteousness, manage to give me insight into every point around the argument, but not the true point itself. It's one of the heavy burdens I'll have to carry with me for the rest of my life. Sisyphus bears his burden, I guess I can bear mine, too.

The Northern Lights

The Northern Lights is published bi-weekly by the students of North Central High School, 1801 East 86th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46240. Printing is done by the students of the J. Everett Light Career printing courses. The Northern Lights is a member of the Indiana High School Press Association and Quill and Scroll.

Editor-in-Chief.....Caroline Coons
Managing Editor.....Paul Matthew Yonover
News Editor.....Paul Jaskunas
Editorial Editor.....Tanya Marsh
Insights Editor.....Andrew Cupp
Feature Editor.....Rebecca Rahe
Sports Editor.....Patrick Mulry
Backpage Editor.....Marla Burt
News Bureau Editor.....Ann Banta
Cartoonist.....Christopher Nimz
Photographer.....Chuck Wong
Faculty Advisor.....Mr. Rod Cord
Staff.....Brad Evans, Laura Galloway, Bridget Graham, Brett Henry, Kirk Johannesen, Susie Mattler, Erin Newton, Tina Poulos, Linda Zynger



Quayle controversy rages on

by Tanya Marsh

The choice of Senator Dan Quayle for vice president made by the Republican National Convention was an important moment for Indiana.

But after the cheering at home died down, questions began to arise concerning both his character and his competence.

The biggest controversy concerns Quayle's service record. Despite his professed strong anti-communist, pro-defense beliefs, Quayle did not stand up for his convictions anywhere near the front line during the Vietnam "Conflict". Instead, he "spent the war in Indiana."

Criticism does not arise from the fact that Quayle successfully avoided combat by enlisting in the National Guard. The point is that Quayle is the type of politician who backs a strong stance against communism with other men's lives. Is that the kind of man America wants to be "a heartbeat away from the presidency?"

There is also the question of Quayle's experience. He has spent a little more than a decade in Congress but is that enough? Quayle shows great promise as a rising young Republican but he should get more experience before vying for an office like vice president.

One dangerous problem arises with Quayle's lack of experience and youthfulness. Recently, when faced with his hypocrisy of claiming to support the armed forces then voting against veteran benefits, Quayle attributed the discrepancy to "youthful indiscretion". Can America afford to have this kind of man in the White House?

In all practicality, the vice president must be qualified to become president at any time. Based on his hypocrisy about Vietnam, "youthful indiscretions", and lack of experience, Quayle is definitely not qualified to be president and should not be offered the possibly premature opportunity to gain that position.

"In My Opinion" by Paul Matthew Yonover

Why have a drinking age in America? we ask. You do not have the maturity nor the responsibility to handle alcohol, they answer. Of course, the youth of today would disagree with this answer, as would I.

Too many and too many places have I seen people who think they are okay to drive but in reality aren't. I dread the day that I attend a friend's funeral that was the result of drinking and driving.

How can we ask adults to trust us and to allow us the privilege of drinking when we continually provide them with the evidence that we are, in fact, not ready to assume the responsibility of liquor? Instead of proving our competence, we demonstrate total incompetence when teen-agers continue to drink and drive, when accidents or arrests, or both, occur. In order to understand, we must look at the situation from the adult's viewpoint---Should I let a teen-ager drink if he/she is going to be reckless? Would a banker hire a thief, or would a hospital hire an incompetent doctor? Of course not, and adults see us in the same light.

I strongly believe in the free will of a person and their right to exercise it. I see nothing wrong with moderate and responsible drinking. Just from a practical standpoint, it is obvious that high schoolers are going to drink whether adults like it or not. (And whether the lawmakers like it or not!) What I am stressing is establishing RESPONSIBLE and CAREFUL drinking habits.

Some would stop me here and point out the fact that adults are as much at fault as we are--- they drink and drive too! Yes, this is true, but instead of pointing the finger elsewhere, let us stop searching for a scapegoat and instead examine our own dilemma. We must first resolve our own problem before we solve anyone else's.

As a wise man once said, "The Lord gave man two ends. Man's success depends upon which end he thinks with and which end he sits on."

Insights

Press fulfills duty to American public

By Erin Newton

"Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties."

— John Milton

Areopagitica

(defense of freedom of the press)

John Milton was correct 344 years ago, just as he is now. Knowledge is essential to people so they can formulate their own ideas.

Since 1791, when the First Amendment was ratified, the media has provided the general public with all sorts of information by which it can form opinions. Things have not changed today. Unfortunately, with this year's presidential election, people seem to be forgetting this fundamental truth.

Many are upset with the press and complain that it is focusing on the wrong things. But the truth of the matter is that the criticism is unfounded: the fault lies with the figures being reported. In fact, a recent Time magazine article entitled "Being Candid About Deception" is congratulatory about "how well the press is doing at showing the campaign as it actually is."

More so now than in past elections, the press is revealing a personal view of the candidates. And, as a result, the public is better able to evaluate the character of these figures as well as the strategies, however unprofessional, behind their campaigns. (The candidates are fully aware of this, though they appear to make no attempt to stop it. It is "as if acknowl-

edging phoniness makes it honest.")

Since the media exists to inform the public, it is vital to keep the latter satisfied. And research has shown that, in all actuality, people are preferring to learn about the "human" sides of the candidates more than anything else. Says William Safire, a writer for the New York Times, "Maybe I should report what the candidates are actually proposing," but then "these essays would become a catastrophe of dullness."

Even the political figures are aware of the disinterest, as Hodding Carter III, of the Wall Street Journal, alludes to: "Whatever tendencies any of them [the candidates] might have to talk turkey to the voters is withered by clear evidence that they are not yet ready to hear it... They know the day of accountability is coming, but they are in no hurry to reach it."

In the midst of reporting on these "people-pleasing" topics, the media has NOT forgotten the "hard core" news. These types of stories have been run, but they were done so much earlier in the election process, when no one seemed to care. With the eventual demand for fresh stories, editors felt that they could not duplicate the material.

The media must continue to present to its audience a clear image of the candidates. And, to do this, it must be aggressive at times. Even Reader's Digest, a typically conservative magazine, agrees that "tough investigative reporting, sharp political analysis and close scrutiny of public

officials are all crucially needed in a democracy."

At some point, it all becomes a First Amendment question. The media argues that as long as their material is neither untruthful nor libelous, no one can accuse it of any wrongdoing. Nevertheless, it still has a responsibility to the public to educate it. "Having witnessed too many flawed presidencies recently," states Time's Thomas Griffith, the press is in no mood to soften its searching examination of a candidate's deeds and character."



Press making policy?

By Bridget Graham

November 1988 is almost here, but will the voters be ready? Some feel that they will not be ready, and that their unpreparedness can be attributed to the press. Many Americans depend on the press to inform them of events on a national and international scale. They also want to hear about important issues, such as those of the upcoming election. The role of the press has always been difficult to pinpoint, but lately it seems there are more and more accusations that the press is either overstepping its bounds, not fulfilling its responsibilities, or both.

Says Herbert Schmertz, vice

president for public affairs at Mobil Oil Corporation, "The most obvious abuse [of First Amendment rights] is that the American press often attempts to make policy rather than report it." Schmertz refers to the press's tendency to put issues out of proportion, blowing some up into scandals while others of equal or greater importance fall by the wayside.

The recent hoopla over Dan Quayle's alleged draft-dodging exemplifies what some consider the "wrong kind" of news making headlines. Many feel the press is skipping over the important issues to create

their own news, often according to current "fads." For instance, if Quayle joined the National Guard to avoid Vietnam, that would hardly be shameful if viewed in light of the public attitude towards the Vietnam at the time. However, viewed against the recent stream of films and television shows that have created a retrospective popularity for the war, Quayle's image is tarnished. At the same time, the public learns little about relevant issues for the election.

Former presidential candidate Bob Dole says, "While the electorate yearns for meaty debate on the budget, foreign policy, and the issues, what it gets is political gossip...adding up to a journalistic game of Trivial Pursuit."

Mobil's Schmertz also complained that the press seems to search too hard for the news, that it "often employs questionable tactics—soliciting stolen documents, depending on unnamed sources, intruding on people's privacy—in its eagerness to get a story."

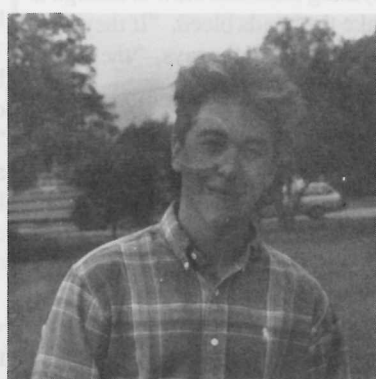
Commonweal writer John Garvey wonders "if there isn't a commissar or at least a committee which decides what issues we are allowed to consider important." Why do the buying trends of Yuppies often get more coverage than the situation in Northern Ireland? Garvey suggests that "journalism and journalistic thinking rule our age...we want things simple and summed up." Unfortunately, even when the press would like to be a pure news source, it usually loses sight of that priority in its rush print what it thinks the public wants to hear.

Does the press do an accurate job of displaying the facts to the public?



Roland
Dowdeswell,
Junior

"I think the news suppresses the hard-working slugs of America."



Brandon
Bush,
Junior

"The press seems to have too much influence over people's opinions."

Feature

Life In A Foreign Country ...

For many (if not most) of North Central's students, Indianapolis is the only hometown they remember. Or if not Indianapolis, then another American city or town. But a few students (and teachers) have experienced what it is like to live outside the United States.

Before moving to the United States a year ago, Lee Mitchell, senior, lived in the city of Manchester, England. Lee is a British citizen whose family moved to the States because of her father's job. Although the move was to a foreign country, the similarities (especially language) between two countries and Lee's having visited here before, prevented any major culture shock. However, there are differences.

A British teenager cannot get his license until he's 17, and even then it's not likely he'll be driving much. The driving test is extremely difficult and most fail three or four times, also, not many family's have more than one car. The public transportation system is efficient and more heavily relied upon than here. On a Friday or Saturday night a group of friends may take a bus to a local pub to spend the evening socializing. Yes, that's right, the local pub. As Lee puts it, in England, "You don't have to go into a forest to drink." The legal drinking age is 18, but it's not hard to get served at 14 or 15. Alcohol is far less of a problem. Says Lee, "In America it's a thing of rebellion which, some would say, is half the fun. In England, you just take it for granted that



High School Students from Manchester, England
Photographer unknown

it's there, and you don't drink to get drunk."

Although Lee was born a British citizen and came to the U.S. as a foreigner, it's not hard at N.C. to find people who are U.S. citizens but because of a father's job or other reasons, lived in a foreign country. Blane Sherman, junior, is one such student. Along with his brothers, Kyle and Jason, and sister, Maura, Blane lived in the country of Zambia from 1974 to 1976. Even though he was scarcely more than a tot at the time, Blane vividly recalls several experiences there. The family once spent the night at a game park and unknowingly set up camp in the middle of a herd of hippos' path to the river. Blane says he would like to visit Africa again, but not live there because of the poverty and, as he re-

members, "There were lines for everything."

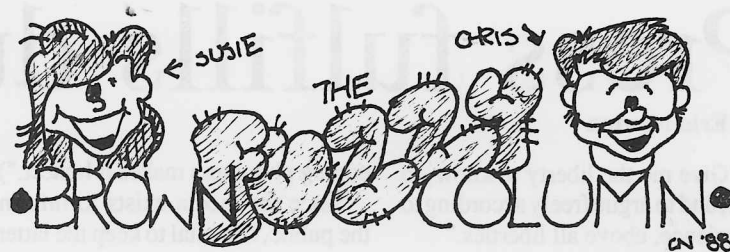
Like the Sherman's, Mr. Bill Broderick, teacher, spent part of his childhood abroad. His family lived in Australia, the Phillipines and Hong Kong. In Australia, rather than attending an American school, Broderick was enrolled in an Australian elementary school. Instead of riding a school bus he took a train to school everyday and he remembers that the discipline was very strict. For minor offenses, such as receiving below 60 percent on a spelling test, the students hands were beaten with leather straps. There were two kinds of straps, the worse kind had little bumps. A student might be given anything from one blow to enough to make the hands bleed. "If they were nice," Broderick says, "they'd let you swittch hands"

.....

Kyle, Jason, and Blane Sherman harvest bananas with their father in Zambia.

photo by Kathy Sherman

.....



by Susie Mattler and Chris Nimz

Alright people, we know you're all sitting there wandering, what the heck is a fuzzy brown column. Well, fuzzy brown comes from the Latin Fuzzious Brownious or "great long winded speech." Now, we hope the word column is self-explanatory, and if not, LOOK IT UP IN THE DICTIONARY, IDIOT!

Now, of course this is a review something...well, maybe we shouldn't, that would be too easy. Instead, why don't we give you our view of the school.

To start off with, one can't really take a complete look at the school without first turning to the head honcho, the big cheese, numero uno, the captain of the ship, the pinnacle of power—Mr. Roach, our principal. But one must ask—what is a principal? Is it a position of power or is it merely one who sits in an office counting floor tiles? But seriously, we all know that Mr. Roach is just a warm, kind man and friend to small woodland creatures who just incidentally tries to keep us in line (which is commonly known to be a physical impossibility.)

Moving right along, let's move on to a different subject. Cafeterias—what is a cafeteria? Well, it's a large room in the middle of the school containing tables, chairs, a veritable pot-pourri of food items prepared for your dining enjoyment, and two conveyor belts, but that's not important right now. What is important is the school's illogical selection of food choices. Why is it that one can't purchase a carbonated beverage to quench one's thirst while Mr. Rod Average can buy Twinkies, Ding-Dongs, Ho-Hos and a plethora of other Hostess items to gorge themselves every afternoon between the hours of 10:30 and 1:00.

GREEN. Kermit the Frog once said, "It's not easy being green. North Central obviously didn't get the message. As we walk through the halls (on official newspaper business of course) we've noticed that everything is green. Our lockers are green. The tiles around our lockers are green. The floor is green. The wallpaper is green. Even the blackboards are green. Ooh! pinch us if you think that this is deja vu. You have to wonder. Is this some bizarre act of fate or did they have a sale at Sherman-Williams...

STUDENT FOCUS

Each year, North Central is host to a large group of high school freshman. Often these students are nervous about their first day of school, how they will fit in, and whether or not they will be able to find their locker or their classes.

To find out a little bit more about how a North Central student feels about being a new comer in their first year of high school, we interviewed Cheryl Stuart.

What were you the most afraid of when you first came to North Central?

"I was really afraid of getting lost, because this is such a big school." What was your first day of school like?

It was really hectic. I was late to most of my classes, I couldn't find my locker, and I had no idea where the buses were. To top it all off, when it was time for gym, I went into the



Photo by Stephanie Cravens

boys gym instead of the girls. That was definitely embarrassing."

What was your first impression of North Central?

"I always heard things about how big it is and how hard the classes were going to be. But when I got here, it wasn't that bad."

How do you feel about being a freshman?

"The only thing that really bothers me about it is that whenever you're late or you do something wrong, people always yell, "FRESHMAN!" and that is pretty degrading."

Sports

Panthers Rip Rockets 33-16



Senior Guard Ryan Casterline gets his leg checked by a trainer.
Photo by M. Blase

by Kirk Johannesen

On Friday, September 2, the host Panthers, led by strong offensive and defensive efforts, avenged their 31-0 loss to the Carmel Greyhounds with a 33-16 thumping of the Broad Ripple Rockets.

The Panthers received outstanding offensive efforts from running backs Kevin Woods, who rushed for 99 yards and one touchdown, Dontonio Nibbs, who scored two touchdowns, Mike Brown, who ran for a touchdown and quarterback John Hale, who threw a 29 yard scoring strike to Nibbs.

On the other side of the coin, the Panther defense turned in a superb effort in stopping the Rockets and their star running back Charles Miles. The defense was so dominant that it did not allow the Rockets to

gain a single first down during the entire first half. The Panthers contained Miles to under 50 yards rushing and were spurred on by Tim Denny's two interceptions, one of which keyed a touchdown drive.

"We were looking to come and get Broad Ripple and get the first win under our belt," were the words of defensive tackle Tony Henderson, who helped shut down Broad Ripple's ground game.

Coming into the game, the Panthers knew they would be facing an outstanding running back in miles and that they had to be ready to stop him.

"We had to go back and concentrate on our work ethic," said Head Coach George Pappas, explaining the team's preparation for the Rockets.

Pappas said the key to victory was that "we were able to move the ball and we executed well against a team

that we wanted to play well against."

The first half was dominated by North Central as they mixed the run and the pass well and moved the ball at will. The Panthers offensive line overpowered the Rockets' defensive line throughout the game, continuously creating room for the running back to power through, including two first half rushing scores and one in the second half.

Center David Cavorski explained "we played them like they were the number one team in the state, and we have to play every game like that."

The Panthers prove that they are certainly a better team than the Carmel game showed, but that they still have some work to do. After rolling to a 26-0 halftime lead, the team seemed to let up as the Rockets scored two touchdowns to cut the lead to 10 points, but NC put the game out of reach with a late touchdown run by Nibbs. The Panthers next home game is tonight at home against Chatard.

While the Panthers relished their victorious moments over Broad Ripple, they could not lose sight of the fact that they were to play one of their biggest games of the year last Friday. On that date, they hosted the defending 5A state champion and current number one ranked team in the state, the Ben Davis Giants.

Last year the Giants beat the Panthers twice, including a shutout in the sectional. This time the team hoped to turn that around in hopes of upsetting the Giants.

To beat the Giants, the Panthers needed to concentrate on stopping the Giants explosive ground game and efficient passing. With hard work, determination and a team effort, anything can happen once the whistle blows.

Swimmers Set Sights High

by Brett Henry

Last year the girls' swim team finished with a 3-8 record and placed third in the sectionals. This season the team has its sights set on a winning season as well as a trip to the state meet.

Leading the Panthers into action will be six seniors, Debbie Williamson, Greta Krueger, Meggan Bovitz, Danielle Kovach, Laura Huff and Kelly Wooden. Bovitz, who specializes in the freestyle and the backstroke, and Williamson, the team's top diver, will be especially important to the team's success. Both competed in last year's state meet, with Williamson placing fourth in the diving competition.

Besides the swimmers, The NC divers should be among the top. Next to Williamson, Greta Krueger will add much experience to the squad. Sophomore Kim Whitmire rounds out the top three.

A strength of this year's team is the great unity felt among the members. As this will be the third or fourth year for many, they are a really tight, close-knit group. "It is the largest amount of spirit of any swim team I have seen," commented Danielle Kovach. Hopefully the spirit will make up for the team's lack of experience. Most other teams swim year round, but not all the Panthers do.

The squad has its eyes set on a winning season and a possible second place sectional finish. In addition,

the members are looking to have more people participating in the state meet. Tough matchups will be against Carmel, who "always gives the team a hard time," and Kokomo.

The team worked very hard getting ready for the season which opened Tuesday against Warren Central. This should prove to be the start of successful swim year for North Central.



Senior Danielle Kovach practices her butterfly.

Photo by J. Kaminker

The Press Box by Patrick Mulry

Once again, the football season is upon us. For those who get bored of three months of continuous baseball, fall is a season to look forward to. Because wherever fall is, football is, and with it come many other things.

At NC, football season is, for many, the height of the social year. Everybody goes to NC home games, but few watch the game. Football takes second seat to socializing at games. Not coincidentally, the first school dance, Homecoming, is also in the fall. This year, Homecoming is the last home date, versus Terre Haute South, as opposed to last year's awful

Homecoming, held in the beginning of the season.

But football encompasses more than social life at NC. There are many other teams which receive backing from NC students, most notably the nearby college teams, IU, and Purdue. Others are supported by NC students, but on the Monday morning following the Old Oaken Bucket game, the school is deluged with either cream and crimson or black and Old Gold.

College football is also a hot topic of debate in NC halls. On Tuesday mornings, when the updated AP and

UPI polls are posted, shouts of "who's number one?" and "where's IU?" echo through the halls of North Central. Football fever hits its peak when a supported team is either ranked for the first time in the season or moves up in the polls, but it is greatly bemoaned when a school falls from the ranks of the Top 20.

However, even the polls cannot decide on who should be ranked where. In the preseason polls, both AP and UPI had Florida State, who lost only two starters to graduation, ranked first. However, after Florida St. was mauled 31-0 by Miami in its

season opener, it dropped to numbers 12 and 13, respectively. Amazingly, some teams need not even play a game to move up in the polls. Notre Dame went from number 13 to 12 in the AP poll without playing a single down.

The polls usually cannot decide who is better than who, which leads to many other polls. *Sports Illustrated* and *The Sporting News* both update their polls on a weekly basis, and many other publications, including *Street and Smith's College Football* and *Don Heinrich's College Football* publish their own

preseason polls. It is usually interesting to save these until after the bowls are over to see just how far off the mark the publications were with their picks.

Which leads to the final point: Now, each week, NC has its very own comprehensive Top 10 college football poll. Look for your favorite team in it. Voted on by the sports writers of *The Northern Lights* and sports writers from the yearbook, *The Northerner*, The Conglomerated Press appears every Wednesday morning in the newspaper office, room G609.

Backpage

Ben and Jerry's: ice cream of the 80's

